

flooring planks against lengthwise movement between the frame rails and an open position permitting selective removal of one or more of the flooring planks.

25. The flooring system according to claim 24, wherein the flooring planks are wooden planks.

26. The flooring system according to claim 24, wherein the c-channel of the first end member is hinged along its length to permit a portion of the c-channel confining the flooring members against movement to be rotated to a position in which the flooring members can be removed from between the frame rails.

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### **REMARKS**

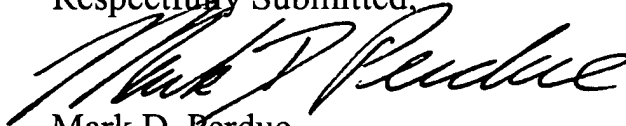
Claims 16 - 26 are now pending in the application. A clean copy of the new claims is attached. The new claims are submitted to be similar in scope to the originally submitted claims, but they are submitted to better define the invention.

None of the prior art of record discloses a trailer of such simple construction (angle iron and c-channel) that has the ability to selectively remove flooring members or planks when they are rotten or otherwise need replacement. *Turpin*, for instance, discloses a relatively elaborate trailer and flooring system where the "frame rails" and end members" (using the terminology of the present application)

are integral with the walls of the trailer, which is a more elaborate and expensive construction than the angle iron and c-channel of the present invention.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully solicits reconsideration and allowance of all claims.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark D. Perdue", written in a cursive style.

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16. An improved flooring system for a cargo-carrying vehicle, the system comprising:  
a plurality of flooring members;

a pair of parallel, spaced-apart frame rails formed of angle iron, the frame rails  
confining the flooring members therebetween in closely spaced adjacent relation to form  
a floor surface; and

a pair of end members, each of the end members being formed of c-channel, the  
end members extending transversely between the frame rails at the ends thereof to secure  
the frame members against movement parallel to the frame rails, at least a portion of the  
c-channel of one of the end members being selectively moveable relative to the frame  
rails to permit selective removal of one or more of the flooring members from between  
the frame rails.

17. The flooring system according to claim 16, wherein the flooring members are  
wooden planks.

18. The flooring system according to claim 16, wherein the c-channel of the movable  
end member is hinged along its length to permit a portion of the c-channel confining the  
flooring members against movement to be rotated to a position in which the flooring  
members can be removed from between the frame rails.

19. An improved flooring system for a vehicle, the system comprising:

a pair of spaced-apart, parallel frame rails formed of angle iron;

a plurality of flooring members extending longitudinally between the frame rails and held in closely spaced adjacent relation by the frame rails;

5 a first end member and extending transversely between the frame rails at one end thereof, the end member confining the flooring members against longitudinal movement between the frame rails;

a second end member formed of c-channel extending transversely between the frame rails at an end opposite the first end member, a portion of the c-channel of the  
10 second end member being movable between a first position confining the floor members against longitudinal movement between the frame rails and a second position permitting selective removal of one or more of the flooring members.

20. The flooring system according to claim 19, wherein the flooring members are  
15 wooden planks.

21. The flooring system according to claim 19, wherein the c-channel of the second end member is hinged along its length to permit a portion of the c-channel confining the flooring members against movement to be rotated to a position in which the flooring  
20 members can be removed from between the frame rails.

22. The flooring system according to claim 19, wherein the first end member is formed of c-channel.

23. The flooring system according to claim 22, wherein the c-channel of the first end member is hinged along its length to permit a portion of the c-channel confining the flooring members against movement to be rotated to a position in which the flooring members can be removed from between the frame rails.

24. An improved flooring system for a cargo carrying vehicle, the system comprising:

a plurality of flooring planks having a length and a width;

a pair of parallel, spaced-apart frame rails formed of angle iron and confining the flooring planks lengthwise therebetween in closely spaced adjacent relation to form a floor surface;

a first end member formed of c-channel and extending transversely between the frame rails at one end thereof, the end member confining the flooring planks against lengthwise movement;

a second end member formed of c-channel and extending transversely between the frame rails at an end opposite the first end member, the c-channel of the second end member being hinged so as to be movable between a closed position confining the

flooring planks against lengthwise movement between the frame rails and an open position permitting selective removal of one or more of the flooring planks.

25. The flooring system according to claim 24, wherein the flooring planks are wooden planks.

26. The flooring system according to claim 24, wherein the c-channel of the first end member is hinged along its length to permit a portion of the c-channel confining the flooring members against movement to be rotated to a position in which the flooring members can be removed from between the frame rails.